Dinosaurs in Art

What did the teenage chicken say to the T. rex?
Hiya, Grandpa!

Since the late Victorian era (1837-1901), scientists have known that birds descended from dinosaurs. Paleontologist John Ostrom’s work in the 1960s suggested that the forefeet of the theropod (T. rex is a theropod) Deinonychus antirrhopus had much in common with the feet of modern-day birds. Today, it is widely understood that all birds are descended from this dinosaur, and in the 1990s, archeological digs in China unearthed the first feathered dinosaur fossils.

Use the letters that spell Deinonychus antirrhopus to discover four new words that are either birds or bird-related items.

Deinonychus antirrhopus

Parrot

A Little Bird Told Me

Birds sing . . . and whistle, buzz, and trill. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology online bird guide has more than 600 recorded bird sounds. To learn to identify bird songs, pay attention to four musical elements.

Use the key below to decode the message and reveal how to listen to birds.

Key
E H I M N R T

Code

HINT: if you need help, look at artwork by Wendy Brockman, Don Rambadt, Timothy David Mayhew, and Sean Murtha

BONUS: The marks that made the above image are created by soot from fire. Look for artworks that use these materials: steel, handmade paper, turkey tail feather, or fabric.

LINK: The Cornell Lab of Ornithology
www.allaboutbirds.org
Indoor Bird Watching

Keep your eyes open wide and search for these birds in the galleries and the puzzle below.

Pelican  Swift
Falcon  Quail
Flamingo  Rooster
Egret  Junco
Swan  Curlew
Hawk  Sanderling
Condor  Avocet

Indoor Bird Sketching

To draw a bird, first think about simple shapes: circles, ovals, and triangles. Follow these directions to draw a feathered friend.

1. Sketch the basic shapes.
2. Add details, such as an eye, beak, and feet. Add outlines to complete the bird.
3. Add shading or coloring.

Exhibition Extras

Get insights into *Birds in Art* artworks by listening on a Museum iPod, your smartphone, or tablet; all free!

Listen to Mark Eberhard’s audio track to learn how a childhood Christmas present, a poem, and artist-friend Charley Harper inspired this sculpture.